AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please **REPLACE** the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Turning back to Figure 1, channels 22 run along the inner edges of the frame element ~~18~~ 16. As is best seen in Figure 3, the lip 24 of the channel ~~24~~ 22 provides a bulbous upper edge which projects inwardly from the channel 22.

Please **REPLACE** the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 29, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The overmoulding 14 ~~12~~ is manufactured from a flexible polymeric material such as epdm or polyurethane. The upper edge of the overmoulding 14 ~~18~~ defines an upstanding rib 20 which projects above the flange 18 ~~10~~. The outer edge of the overmoulding defines a flange 26 which is tapered and forms a ramp which is typically at an angle of from 1 in 10 to 1 in 20. This allows the floor finish such as a carpet, carpet tile or the like, to extend over the flange and abut the upstanding rib 20 extending around the central aperture of the frame. The upstanding rib 20 acts as an edge trim to the floor finish. A typical floor finish is modular carpet tile, and the rib is sized to correspond with the thickness of the bonding layer at the base of the carpet pile. Figure 3 illustrates the frame 10 located in an aperture in a raised floor deck 21 with carpet 23 extending over the flange 26 and abutting the upstanding rib 20.

Please **REPLACE** the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 22, with the following rewritten paragraph:

With reference to Figure 1, the main central area of the lid is formed from the steel plate as is an integral tongue 114 whilst the hatches 104 and 106 are formed from the flexible overmoulded material. The tongue may, however, be formed, wholly or partly, from the

flexible overmoulded material. This allows the hatches 104, 106 to be linked with the lid panel 102 by flexible hinges formed from the flexible material.

Please **REPLACE** the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As is best seen in Figure 3, the underside of the lid defines one or more ledges 120 extending away from the opposite side of the lid to the hatches. The upper part of the ledge and the lower part of the lid define a curved generally J shaped bearing surface bearing or socket 121 ~~120~~. In use, when the lid is placed on the frame, the socket engages over the lip 24 of the channel and this forms an open hinge which allows the lid to rotate about the lip 24 which acts as a fulcrum to either open or close the access panel. Further, as the ledge 120 ~~detent~~ engages under the bulbous lip 24, pressure on the underside of the lid does not cause the ledge 120 ~~detent~~ to be raised relative to the lip, as the lip acts as a barrier.

Please **REPLACE** the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A tongue 114 extends away from structural core 110 of the lid and is integral therewith. On the free end of the tongue a cylindrical hinge shaft 128 is defined. The latch 108 is mounted on that shaft. The latch comprises a lever which was a generally C-shaped hinge barrel 132 on one end and two downwardly projecting flanges 134 each having a concave mouth 136 which is adapted to engage on the bulbous lip 24 of the channel when the latch is closed. The hinge barrel 132 is retained on the hinge shaft 128 by a snap in retaining clip 137 ~~136~~ which has a depending button 138 on its underside which projects through a hole 140 in the latch and the button engages against the hinge shaft 128 preventing the latch from dislodging from the shaft. The geometry of the arrangement is such that when the lid is closed with the latch locked, upward forces on the lid tend to force the latch into a tighter closure.